

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CPR-01 PM-05 OPR-02 PA-01
SS-15 SY-05 A-01 EB-08 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 IO-13
ACDA-12 H-01 INR-10 L-03 SP-02 /107 W
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O 021758Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7283
INFO USDOC WASHDC
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BERLIN 03047

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, GE
SUBJECT: HIGH-LEVEL GDR VISITS TO US.

REF: A) STATE 110436, B) STATE 108911, C) BERLIN 2551,
D) BERLIN 2925.

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, A SERIES OF VISITS WILL
TAKE PLACE IN THE NEXT SIX WEEKS WHICH CAN HAVE A DIRECT
BEARING ON US-GDR RELATIONS AND WHICH GIVES US AN UNPRE-
CEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
IN EAST GERMANY. THREE MAJOR EAST GERMAN POLITICAL
FIGURES (FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER AND STATE SECRETARY OF
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, GERHARD BEIL; MINISTER OF
CULTURE HOFFMANN; AND FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER) WILL BE
VISITING THE UNITED STATES AND WILL MEET WITH US OFFI-
CIALS. THESE VISITS SHOULD BE SEEN AGAINST A BACKGROUND
OF INCREASED BILATERAL ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED IN BERLIN'S
2628 INCLUDING THE RECENTLY-COMPLETED SUCCESSFUL PAUL
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STRAND PHOTO EXHIBIT IN EAST BERLIN, THE UPCOMING
AMERICAN FILM WEEK IN THREE EAST GERMAN CITIES, THE
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN EXHIBIT AT DESSAU, AND THE GDR DRESDEN
ART EXHIBIT OPENING IN WASHINGTON. THESE ESSENTIALLY
UNRELATED EVENTS HAVE CREATED FAVORABLE CONDITIONS IN
WHICH TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN
THE GDR. I APPRECIATE THE EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS THAT ARE

BEING MADE IN WASHINGTON FOR THESE VISITS; IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE ADVANTAGE TO US, THESE VISITS SHOULD BE TREATED AS PART OF A SINGLE COORDINATED APPROACH, SO THAT POINTS MADE TO ONE VISITOR WILL BE REINFORCED BY POINTS MADE TO OTHERS.

2. THE GDR WILL CLEARLY ATTACH GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO THESE VISITS AND THE TALKS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS. FROM THE EAST GERMAN POINT OF VIEW THE MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON WILL SERVE TO ADVANCE GDR OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE, SELECTED CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AND EXPANDED TRADE WITH THE U.S.

3. FOR OUR PART, I BELIEVE WE CAN AND SHOULD USE THESE VISITS TO ADVANCE A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC U.S. OBJECTIVES SUCH AS ENCOURAGING CONSTRUCTIVE GDR BEHAVIOR IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, INTERNAL LIBERALIZATION, EXPANDED EXPORTS AND GREATER PROGRESS ON CONSULAR CONVENTION AND CLAIMS. THE GDR OFFICIALS HAVE IN VARYING DEGREES POLITICAL INFLUENCE IN EAST GERMANY BEYOND THE NARROW CONFINES OF THEIR MINISTRIES. IT IS THEREFORE APPROPRIATE AND DESIRABLE TO EXPLOIT THEIR PRESENCE BY DISCUSSING WITH THEM A BROAD RANGE OF U.S. CONCERNS. SPECIFICALLY, I RECOMMEND THAT IN CONVERSATIONS WITH THESE OFFICIALS ON SUCH MATTERS AS THE CONSULAR CONVENTION, HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION OF REMAINING DIVIDED FAMILY CASES AND BINATIONAL

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MARRIAGE CASES, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AS FACTORS IN EXPANDING US-GDR RELATIONS SHOULD BE STRESSED.

4. I HAVE NO ILLUSIONS THAT ANY OF THESE OFFICIALS WILL BE PERSUADED, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A DIALOGUE AND THAT THE HARD FACTS OF U.S. POLICY INTERESTS BE LAID OUT. THIS WOULD SERVE TO REINFORCE THE EFFORTS MADE HERE IN EAST BERLIN. FURTHER, I BELIEVE THAT THE EAST GERMANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SEE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF POLICY-LEVEL PEOPLE POSSIBLE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, SO AS TO REMOVE ANY MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE BROAD SUPPORT AMONG THE PUBLIC AND IN CONGRESS FOR U.S. POLICIES TOWARD THE GDR, ESPECIALLY IN THE HUMANITARIAN FIELD.

5. I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SCHEDULING OF SENIOR LEVEL VISITS FOR BEIL IN WASHINGTON WOULD OFFER US A TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY U.S. VIEWS ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES TO THE GDR PRIOR TO THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER JUNE 6. GIVEN THE GROWING STATURE OF BEIL IN THE GDR LEADERSHIP AND HIS DIRECT INTEREST IN US-GDR RELATIONS, MEETINGS WITH UNDER SECRETARIES NEWSOM

AND COOPER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, IN ADDITION TO BEIL'S SCHEDULED MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE HARMAN, WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND WOULD BE HELPFUL IN ACHIEVING U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES BEYOND THE COMMERCIAL FIELD. AS INDICATED IN SEPTEL, MISSION STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT BEIL BE RECEIVED IN AGRICULTURE AT THE ACTING SECRETARY LEVEL.

6. WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY AND OTHERS ENGAGE FISCHER IN A TOUR D'HORIZON, STRESSING CONSULAR CONVENTION, HUMANITARIAN CASES, BERLIN, EAST GERMAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA, DISARMAMENT, NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND RELATED ISSUES. I EXPECT TO SEE FISCHER PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE AND MAY HAVE OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 CPR-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BERLIN 03047

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

7. RELEVANT TO MINISTER OF CULTURE HOFFMANN'S PERSONAL PROGRAM WISHES, WE ARE AWAITING MINCULT'S RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WILL SUPPLEMENT THOSE ALREADY MADE BY EMBASSY. CULTURAL AFFAIRS IS AN AREA WHERE WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE BILATERAL PROGRESS AND LATER THIS YEAR, WHEN THE COMPOSERS STRING QUARTET COMPLETES ITS FIVE-CITY TOUR, THE EMBASSY'S CULTURAL PLAN WILL HAVE BEEN FULLY REALIZED. CONSEQUENTLY, DURING HOFFMANN'S CALLS ON ICA DIRECTOR REINHARDT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, OUR PROGRAM PROJECTION FOR 1979 SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AND HOFFMANN REMINDED OF THE MFA'S AGREEMENT TO MOUNT THE "REFLECTIONS, USA" EXHIBIT IN BERLIN'S TV TOWER, THE DESIRABILITY OF

SUBSTANTIAL EXPANSION OF THE EXCHANGE OF PERSONS PROGRAM,
AND OTHER ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND
COOPERATION. BOLEN

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